

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An improved method is provided for validating network configuration change commands in a storage area network. The improved method includes: providing a change command to a network management device residing in the network, where the change command expresses a change to the configuration of the network and implicitly indicates an initial configuration state of the network therein; determining a current configuration state for the network; and implementing the change command when the change command is expressed in terms of the current configuration state of the network.

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